

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 706

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to recognize and congratulate the administration, faculty, students, and parents of Andrew Jackson Elementary School upon the celebration of the school's 75th Anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those exemplary educational institutions that have made significant contributions, through an abiding commitment to excellence, to their respective communities and to this State; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Jackson Elementary School is most assuredly one such noteworthy establishment; over the past 75 years, Andrew Jackson Elementary School has produced outstanding graduates who have excelled in all walks of life and has remained a pillar of educational excellence since its founding; and

WHEREAS, adjoining The Hermitage, Andrew Jackson Elementary School serves as a link between the rich heritage of the State and the surrounding progressive community; and

WHEREAS, built in 1928 on three acres of land purchased from Mr. John Donelson, the school began its tenure as an educational institution on the Monday following Thanksgiving, with an enrollment of students in grades one through eight that was approximately 150; and

WHEREAS, throughout its history, Andrew Jackson Elementary has undergone several renovations and expansions: additional classrooms and a cafeteria were built in 1941; a new cafeteria was built in 1955, and the old cafeteria was converted into a library and two classrooms in 1962; an open-space facility containing two pod areas divided by a teacher work area was constructed in 1969, and at that time Andrew Jackson Elementary absorbed the student body of Stateland School; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Stateland School reopened as Andrew Jackson Annex, housing grades four, five, and six; Andrew Jackson Elementary remained in two separate buildings until the fall of 1996; and

WHEREAS, in January 1995 the second through sixth grades relocated to the old Donelson High School building and the kindergarten and first grades relocated to the Andrew Jackson Annex Building in order to facilitate construction of a new facility; and

WHEREAS, a 61,840 square foot facility incorporated the open-space pod into its structure and replaced the old building, providing adequate space for 700 students; the doors of the new Andrew Jackson Elementary School opened in August 1996 ready to enlighten its students; and

WHEREAS, in order to enhance the learning process, the new building incorporated a Media Center, playroom, and music and art rooms in addition to the traditional classrooms; and

WHEREAS, the new Andrew Jackson Elementary School was dedicated on September 29, 1996 and had an enrollment of 677; and

WHEREAS, 2003 renovation plans for Nashville Public Schools culminated in the transformation of the open-space pod into 13 separate classroom areas, a technology lab, and a teacher work area; and

WHEREAS, achieving academic excellence through various programs, Andrew Jackson Elementary School participated in the Metro Nashville Reading Initiative Program in 2001-2002 and currently provides PLATO Learning Systems for Language Arts and Math in grades three and four, Chorus for grades three and four, and Art Club, Percussion Ensemble, and enrichment activities twice weekly for the fourth grade; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the required subject curriculum, students currently participate in music, art, and physical education activities at least nine times during a six week period; and

WHEREAS, raising the bar in education, Andrew Jackson School is an Encore Center for the McGavock Cluster schools and offers a three-hour session per week for high achieving students; and

WHEREAS, adhering to its motto, "High Expectations for All", Andrew Jackson School has earned both the prestigious award for National School of Excellence in 1990 and an

accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in 1988 which has been re-evaluated and re-instituted every five years since the initial accreditation; and

WHEREAS, experiencing significant growth throughout its 75 year history, Andrew Jackson Elementary School has remained committed to excellence in education; currently the K-4 school is providing a quality learning experience to an enrollment of 527 students; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for this General Assembly to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge the outstanding accomplishments of such a fine educational institution; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we recognize and congratulate Principal Lenna Allen, Assistant Principal Brian Partin, and the faculty, staff, students, and parents of Andrew Jackson Elementary School upon the school's 75th Anniversary and applaud their dedication to excellence in education and service to the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.